

1160 W. Orange Grove Ave., Arcadia, California 91006, U.S.A.

© Copyright 1975

EARLY STAGES OF *PHYCIODES PALLIDA*,
P. ORSEIS, AND *P. MYLITTA* (NYMPHALIDAE)

JAMES SCOTT

Department of Entomology, University of California, Davis, California

SCOTT (1973) DESCRIBED EARLY STAGES of *P. orseis*, compared them with published descriptions of early stages of *P. mylitta*, and speculated that *P. orseis* might be most closely related to *P. pallida*.

This speculation has proven false. *P. pallida* from Red Rocks, Jefferson County, Colorado, was raised on *Cirsium vulgare*. *P. mylitta* from Thompson Canyon, Yolo Co. Calif. and near Copper, Siskiyou Co. California were raised on *Silybum marianum*. *P. pallida* differs in having later instar larvae ochre in color rather than maroon black as in *P. orseis* or light maroon brown as in *P. mylitta*. *P. pallida* mature larvae have a dorsal brown line, a brown band through the supraspiracular setae, and a few other brown spots. Mature larvae of all three species have the dorsal white stripe on the head. Mature larvae of *P. pallida* lack the subdorsal light spot on the head present in *P. orseis*, but have a light area just above the ocelli (absent in *P. orseis*). *P. mylitta* rarely have the subdorsal light spot and rarely have the supraocellar light patch.

I conclude that phenetically *P. orseis* and *P. mylitta* are most similar to each other, and *P. pallida* is more distantly related but is more similar to *P. mylitta* than to *P. orseis*.

LITERATURE CITED

- SCOTT, J. A. 1973. Early stages and biology of *Phyciodes orseis* (Nymphalidae). *J. Res. Lepid.* 12: 236-242.